

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/628,221

Examiner

Sandra M. Nolan-Rayford

Applicant(s)

FINAMORE, PETER

Art Unit

1772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the 22 December 2004 communication(s).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-10.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 20050303.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413) <sup>is</sup> and 413 prepared  
~~Paper No./Mail Date 3-3-05 + 3-10-05.~~
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other Marked up drawing sheets.

*S.M. Nolan-Rayford*  
**SANDRA M. NOLAN-RAYFORD**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT, STATEMENT RE: DRAWING CHANGES AND  
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

***Examiner's Amendment***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in telephone interviews with Mr. Darin Bartholomew (309/765-5615) on 03 March 2005 and 10 March 2005.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Title

The title has been amended to read: -- HYDROGEN STORAGE CONTAINER --.

In the Abstract

On page 7 of the application, the abstract and its heading have been amended to read:

-- Abstract of the Disclosure

A container for storing hydrogen comprises an outer shell having an inlet for inputting hydrogen gas and an outlet for outputting hydrogen gas. A thermally conductive liner which is a carbon foam coating lines the interior of the outer shell. An inner hydride core is in communication with the inlet and outlet for storing the hydrogen gas. —

In the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to read:

1. (currently amended) A container for storing hydrogen comprising:  
an outer shell having an inlet for inputting hydrogen gas and outlet for outputting hydrogen gas;  
a thermally conductive liner lining an interior of the outer shell, the thermally conductive liner comprising a generally continuous carbon foam coating that adherently coats an interior of the outer shell; and  
an inner hydride core in communication with the inlet and outlet for storing the hydrogen gas.

\* \* \*

Remarks

The title and the abstract have been revised to make them more specific.

Applicant's Figure 1 supports the new language in claim 1. Also, that new language was agreed to during the 10 March 2005 telephone interview involving the examiner, her supervisor and applicant's attorney.

***Drawing Changes***

4. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: The title, inventor and docket number information at the top of both drawing sheets must be deleted. *See the material crossed out on the enclosed copies of those sheets.*

5. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

***Reasons for Allowance***

6. The following is a statement of reasons for allowing claims 1-4 and 6-10:

7. The sole base claim of the application is claim 1, which can be summarized as follows:

Claim 1 covers a container for hydrogen comprising:

- an outer shell with an inlet and an outlet for hydrogen gas,
- a thermally conductive liner lining the inner surface of the outer shell, the liner comprising a generally continuous carbon foam coating adherently coated on the interior of the outer shell, and
- an inner hydride core, in communication with the inlet and outlet, for storing the hydrogen gas.

8. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest hydrogen containers having all of the features of claim 1.

9. All prior art rejections are withdrawn.

10. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be addressed to Sandra M. Nolan-Rayford, at telephone number 571/272-1495. She can be reached Monday through Thursday, from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm, ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, contact her supervisor, Harold Pyon, at 571/272-1498.

The fax number for patent application documents is 703/872-9306.

*S.M. Nolan-Rayford*  
S. M. Nolan-Rayford  
Primary Examiner  
Technology Center 1700

10628221(20050310)

**SANDRA M. NOLAN - RAYFORD**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**